

REMARKS

Claims 17-26 are pending in this application, claims 24-26 having been previously withdrawn. Claims 17-23 are rejected.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 17-20 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,771,197 (Ivanto et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,919,656 (Soitu et al. '656), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 17. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 17, and claims 17-26 depending therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

Ivanto et al. discloses a frequency converter-controlled squirrel cage motor particularly for use in elevator operation. The motor's stator is mounted on a stationary axle and the rotor rotating around the stator has been rotatably carried on the same axle. (Abstract).

Soitu et al. discloses an electric asynchronous motor for driving a shaft, a roll shell or a similar machine element. The motor includes an annular rotor and an annular stator. A motor cooling system includes an internal cooling air circuit wherein an air stream flows between the rotor and the motor shaft as well as through an annular heat exchanger for transferring heat from the rotor and/or the stator to a cooling liquid. The annular heat exchanger is positioned within the motor's housing in the area of an end face of the rotor. The cooling air stream also passes over blower vanes and at least one annular series of air circulation channels in the annular body of the stator and/or of the rotor with air streams flowing from the one end face to the other end face of the stator and/or of the rotor, so that the cooling air circuit forms an internal toroidal air stream. (Abstract).

Claim 17 recites in part "a stator; a hollow non-rotary shaft carrying said stator; a plurality of bearings connected to said non-rotary shaft; a rotor rotatably positioned around said stator, said rotor being rotatably carried by said bearings; and a machine actuator having a functional part

with a short circuit arrangement associated with said rotor for operating said actuator, said short circuit arrangement includes hollow short circuit conductors connected to said rotor, said hollow short circuit conductors being in fluid communication with an external airflow source by way of the hollow portion of said hollow non-rotary shaft.” (Emphasis added). Applicant submits that such an invention is neither taught, disclosed or suggested by Baker and Bowker, or any of the other cited references, alone or in combination, and includes distinct advantages thereover.

Applicant’s traversal is based on two primary arguments. First, Applicant submits that Soitu et al. ‘656 is not prior art. Soitu et al. ‘656 was filed in the United States on April 5, 2002 and claims foreign priority to an application filed in Germany on April 6, 2001. The instant application, however, is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/889,279 (U.S. Patent No. 7,112,901). Application No. 09/889,279 was filed, and thereby entered the national stage, in the United States on July 13, 2001, Application No. 09/889,279 having been filed as a PCT application on November 14, 2000. Since the instant application has a priority date of November 14, 2000 (which precedes April 6, 2001, the priority date of Soitu et al. ‘656), then Soitu et al. ‘656 should not be deemed prior art.

Second, and in the alternative, Applicant notes that the Office Action at page 3 states that “Ivanto do not disclose the rotor (hollow short circuiting arra[n]gement) having a plurlaiyt of short circuiting bars and rings being integral with the rotor and the stator including windings one of the three pole stator winding, four pole winding and a six pole stator winding.” The Office Action at page 3 further states that Soitu et al. ‘656 discloses an “electric machine in fig. 1 comprising: stator(4), rotor(5) position around the stator , a short circuit arrangement(6) including short circuit conductors connected to the rotor being in fluid communication with the external air flow source by way of the hollow portion of the hollow non-rot[a]ry shaft (1) ...”. The figures of Soitu et al. ‘656 show a variety of air flow paths, none of which flows through either shaft 1 or

shaft 2 (shaft 2 being disclosed as a hollow shaft). Ivanto et al. and Soitu et al. '656 thus fail to disclose hollow short circuit conductors being in fluid communication with an external airflow source *by way of the hollow portion of the hollow non-rotary shaft*.

An advantage of the present invention is its simplicity of construction and its efficient use of structure for cooling.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claim 17, and claims 17-26 depending therefrom, are now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

Claims 21-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ivanto et al. in view of Soitu et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,761,602 (Leibovich). However, claims 21-22 depend from claim 17, which is in condition for allowance for the reasons given above. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 21-22 are also now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that no combination of the cited references teaches, discloses or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. The pending claims are therefore in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

In the event Applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,

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